

long celebration. This year Capital Pride culminates with the Pride Parade on June 9th and "The Main Event," a street fair on Pennsylvania Avenue in the shadow of the Capitol, June 10th.

I have marched in the Pride parades since coming to Congress to emphasize the universality of human rights and the importance of enacting federal legislation to secure those rights for the GLBT community.

This year's theme, "Together we can, Together we will," holds special meaning for the citizens of the District of Columbia and its GLBT community in particular. Washingtonians live in distinct diverse neighborhoods such as Colonial Village to the North, Fort Drum to the South, Northeast Boundary to the East, and Spring Valley to the West. Together we can unite in our quest for all the rights guaranteed U.S. citizens by the Constitution.

In 1994 the District of Columbia lost the first vote it ever won on the floor of the House of Representatives, the delegate vote in the Committee of the Whole. The Republicans retracted the District's vote when they assumed control of the House and this right was re-established under Speaker NANCY PELOSI. Our city of 550,000 residents, 10 percent more residents than the entire State of Wyoming, who pay more taxes per capita than 49 of the 50 states, remains the only jurisdiction in the United States subject to Taxation Without Representation. Our Nation's Capital is entitled full voting rights in the House and the Senate. On April 19, 2007, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1905, The District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2007. The measure is now before the Senate and is an important milestone on DC's road to full and equal representation.

This one success is a reminder of the pending legislation that the 110th Congress must pass: The Clarification of Federal Employment Protections Act, The Early Treatment for HIV Act, The Employment Non-Discrimination Act, The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, The Military Readiness Enhancement Act, The Responsible Education About Life Act, The Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act, and The Uniting American Families Act.

I ask the House to join me in welcoming the celebrants attending the 32nd Annual Capital Pride Festival in Washington, DC, and I take this opportunity to remind the celebrants that U.S. citizens who reside in Washington, DC are taxed without full voting representation in Congress.

RECOGNIZING LIUNA LOCAL 777

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to commemorate a significant milestone and to commend the leadership of the Laborers International Union of North America, LIUNA, Local 777 and its International Union, for their unyielding dedication to fight for the rights of working Americans.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the county workers in Riverside County joining LIUNA Local 777.

Thanks to the profound efforts and devotion of the original organizing committee and sub-

sequent rank and file leaders, Local 777 has become a powerful, dynamic, and active organization committed to improving the quality of life for workers.

Local 777 continues to grow today. From its humble roots of 57 founding members working for the City of Indio in 1993, Local 777 boasts a current membership of nearly 9,000.

LIUNA's membership, which includes workers in the health sector, construction, mail handlers, school employees, higher education employees, and more, have had a positive impact on the community in Riverside, and throughout the whole state of California.

The organization has remained dedicated to their mission of ensuring hard-working Americans are given fair wages, good benefits, a safe work environment, and a chance to fulfill the American dream.

Besides protecting worker's rights, LIUNA also is very active in communities throughout California. The organization sponsors informative training, education, and safety programs that benefit all citizens.

It is with great pride that I recognize the Laborers International Union Local 777 of Riverside County. On this important anniversary, we rise to thank them for all they do to protect working American families.

TRIBUTE TO MONUMENTS MEN AND WOMEN OF WORLD WAR II

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on this 63rd anniversary of D-day, I am proud to pay tribute to the men and women who served in the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives program, MFAA, under the Civil Affairs and Military Government Sections of the United States Armed Forces for their heroic role in the preservation, protection, and restitution of monuments, works of art, and other priceless artifacts in Europe and Asia during and following World War II.

That is why I am proud to be a sponsor of H. Con. Res. 48, which provides much needed recognition to the "Monuments Men and Women" who did so much to preserve many of the world great cultural treasures.

Without their dedication and service, many more of the world's artistic and historic treasures would have been destroyed or lost forever amidst the chaos and destruction of World War II.

I wish to give special thanks and appreciation to the "Monuments Men" for establishing the precedent of protecting cultural property in the event of armed conflict, and by setting a standard not just for one country, but for people of all nations to acknowledge and uphold.

In 1943, the United States Government established the American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas to promote and coordinate the protection and salvage of works of art and cultural and historical monuments and records in countries occupied by Allied armies during World War II. The chairman of the Commission was Supreme Court Associate Justice Owen J. Roberts.

In connection with the establishment of the Roberts Commission, the Monuments, Fine

Arts, and Archives program, MFAA, was established under the Civil Affairs and Military Government Sections of the United States Armed Forces.

The Roberts Commission and the MFAA provide an example for other countries, working in conjunction with the United States, to develop similar programs. More than 100 foreign MFAA personnel, representing at least 17 countries, contributed to this international effort.

The MFAA was comprised of both men and women, commissioned officers and civilians, who were appointed or volunteered to serve as representatives of the Roberts Commission and as the official guardians of some of the world's greatest artistic and cultural treasures.

Members of the MFAA, called the "Monuments Men," often joined frontline military forces and some even lost their lives in combat during World War II. For years following the Allied victory in World War II, members of the MFAA worked tirelessly to locate, identify, catalogue, restore, and repatriate priceless works of art and irreplaceable cultural artifacts, including masterpieces by Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Rembrandt and Vermeer, that had been stolen or sequestered by the Axis powers.

The heroic actions of the MFAA in saving priceless works of art and irreplaceable cultural artifacts for future generations cannot be overstated. It set a moral precedent and established standards, practices, and procedures for the preservation, protection, and restitution of artistic and cultural treasures in future armed conflicts.

Members of the MFAA went on to become renowned directors and curators of preeminent international cultural institutions, including the National Gallery of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Toledo Museum of Art, and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, as well as professors at institutions of higher education, including Harvard, Yale, Princeton, New York University, Williams College, and Columbia University.

Other members of the MFAA were founders, presidents, and members of associations, such as the New York City Ballet, the American Association of Museums, the American Association of Museum Directors, the Archaeological Institute of America, the Society of Architectural Historians, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as respected artists, architects, musicians, and archivists.

Madam Speaker, it bears repeating that the heroic actions of the MFAA in saving priceless works of art and irreplaceable cultural artifacts for future generations cannot be overstated. It established the standards, practices, and procedures for the preservation, protection, and saved for the world artistic and cultural treasures of inestimable value.

I salute the "Monuments Men and Women," who by their example provide further proof of why we call theirs the "Greatest Generation."

MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS ACT OF 2007

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Mental Health

Care for Our Wounded Warriors Act of 2007. This important legislation will address the significant mental health care issues faced by our brave service men and women.

According to recent reports from the Government Accountability Office, 22 percent of returning OEF/OIF service members were referred for further mental health evaluations for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and an estimated one in six service members will receive a diagnosis of PTSD.

As a member of the Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee, I have been working hard to understand how mental health issues, especially PTSD, are affecting our service men and women. We know that PTSD and TBI are the signature injuries of this war.

Unfortunately, the DoD has neither the facilities nor the personnel to meet the needs of returning service members with mental health care diagnoses. We have no research clearinghouse to study and facilitate mental health services and develop effective mental health care policies.

The Mental Health for Our Wounded Warriors Act, a companion to legislation introduced by Senator LIEBERMAN, will establish Centers of Excellence within the DoD to research strategies to prevent, identify and treat combat related mental health injuries.

Equally as important, each center will seek to develop strategies to counter the stigma that surrounds PTSD and mental health in general in the military.

The bill will also include language on treating mental health professionals who are exposed to combat related stress, as well as study the unique needs of female service members serving in combat situations.

The military needs help dealing with this very complex issue. We cannot expect our service members to go out and do the job they do without providing adequate mental health services we know they will need.

The battle against combat-related mental health injuries will be an ongoing issue. It is our obligation to provide the resources necessary to address the absence of a designated center to study the mental health care needs of service members and to provide a solution to the shortage of DoD mental health professionals.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM KLING, SR.

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and celebrate the life of Huntsville businessman, Mr. William Kling, Sr.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Kling and his wife Margaret Anne "Peggy" Rothschild moved to Huntsville in 1950 and formed the Valley Pride Packing Company. Prior to his retirement in 1966, Mr. Kling served as president of the Alabama Meat Packers Association and as a member of the board of directors for the Alabama Cattlemen's Association and the American Meat Institute.

In addition to his leadership in state and local business communities, Mr. Kling shared his kindness and vision to help nurture the cultural development of our region. After his retirement, Mr. Kling became the first individual

to serve 3 consecutive years as president of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors. Under his leadership, the Von Braun Center, a world-class concert hall and entertainment center, was constructed. For more than 25 years, the Von Braun Center has hosted numerous internationally acclaimed musical performances and events.

Mr. Kling also served as a member of the first Huntsville-Madison County Airport Authority. During his time with the authority, he played an influential role in the establishment of the Huntsville International Airport. This airport has since become an economic engine for north Alabama and it continues to support our region's remarkable growth.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Kling passed away in November 2006. He was a successful businessman, humanitarian, and civic leader. His willingness to help others and dedication to his community is an inspiration for all in north Alabama and across the country to follow. I rise today to celebrate his life and honor his achievements, which continue to have a profound impact on north Alabama today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, on May 17 through May 22 I missed votes due to my being out of the country to conduct oversight of our operations in Iraq.

Had I been present for rollcall 378, the Bachus Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 379, the Hensarling Amendment No. 29 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 380, the McHenry Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 381, the Kanjorski Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 382, the Roskam Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 383, the Garrett Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 384, H.R. 698, the Industrial Bank Holding Company Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 385, H.R. 1425, the Staff Sergeant Marvin Rex Young Post Office Building, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 386, the Feeney Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 387, the Price (GA) Amendment No. 8 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 388, the Sessions Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal

Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 389, the Brady Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 390, the Price (GA) Amendment No. 9 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 391, the Doolittle Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 392, the Hensarling Amendment No. 30 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 393, the Neugebauer Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 394, the Neugebauer Amendment No. 4 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 395, on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 396, on final passage of H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 397, S. 214, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 398, H.R. 2264, the No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 399, S. 1104, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 400, H.R. 2399, the Alien Smuggling and Terrorism Prevention Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 401, H.R. 1722, the Leonard W. Herman Post Office, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 402, a motion to table H. Res. 428, I would have voted "no."

IN HONOR OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 25th anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County, founded in 1982. Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States, and its Santa Cruz County chapter has served over 3,000 children in the last 25 years.

For more than a quarter century this organization has created and nurtured one-on-one mentoring relationships between children and carefully screened adult mentors. The shared experiences between a Big Brother or Big Sister and his or her Little Brother or Sister have a documented Positive outcome in the child's life.

Research and anecdotal evidence show that Little Brothers and Sisters are less likely to do drugs, drink alcohol, skip school, or engage in